

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 101028 TOSEC 040159
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S E C R E T STATE 101028 TOSEC 040159

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S EVENING READING FOR
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19:

1. UNIFIL. INITIAL REPORTS OF WALDHEIM'S MIDDLE EAST
DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THAT ISRAEL DID NOT AGREE TO WITHDRAW
ALL ITS FORCES FROM LEBANON BY THE END OF APRIL. RATHER,
ISRAEL SAID IT WOULD RELINQUISH ABOUT 65 PERCENT OF THE
TERRITORY IT NOW HOLDS THIS MONTH, BUT MADE CLEAR THAT WITH-
DRAWAL FROM THE 6-10 KILOMETER STRIP ALONG THE BORDER WOULD
DEPEND ON "NEGOTIATED ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO THE SECURITY
OF THE AREA." UN COMMANDER GENERAL SIILASVUO BELIEVES
THE ISRAELIS WANT TO NEGOTIATE AN "OPEN BORDER" IN PLACE
OF THE "GOOD FENCE" AS THE PRICE OF FINAL WITHDRAWAL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 101028 TOSEC 040159

WALDHEIM WILL REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON HIS MIDDLE
EAST TRIP TOMORROW MORNING. HE IS EXPECTED TO REQUEST A
2,000 MAN ENLARGEMENT OF UNIFIL TO 6,000 TROOPS. THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION ON THE FINANCING OF UNIFIL
ALSO OPENS TOMORROW. THIS SESSION PROMISES TO BE AS MUCH
POLITICAL AS FINANCIAL, BUT SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS BELIEVE

WALDHEIM'S REPORT WILL BE POSITIVE ENOUGH TO PREVENT AN EMOTIONAL DEBATE.

2. CYPRUS. U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM RECEIVED A NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TODAY ON THE QUESTION OF RESUMING THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. ON LEAVING NICOSIA, HE SAID ONLY THAT HE WOULD STUDY THE MATTER FURTHER BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TALKS COULD BEGIN. KYPRIANOU TOLD THE PRESS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE NEW TURKISH PROPOSALS OFFER NO BASIS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, BUT HE IMPLIED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER THE MATTER CAREFULLY SHOULD WALDHEIM SPECIFICALLY CALL FOR TALKS. TOM EAGLETON, PAUL SARBANES, AND JOHN BRADEMAS APPEARED BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE THIS AFTERNOON IN OPPOSITION TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM. THEY WERE GENERALLY RESTRAINED IN PRESENTING THEIR VIEW THAT THE CONGRESS SHOULD NOT LIFT THE TURKISH EMBARGO UNTIL THE CYPRUS SITUATION HAD SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED FOR THE BETTER.

3. NAMIBIA. CY AGREED TO STOP IN LONDON ON HIS WAY BACK FROM MOSCOW AND MEET WITH DAVID OWEN AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FRANCE, GERMANY AND CANADA ON NAMIBIA. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGINS ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION ON MONDAY, APRIL 24. IN ADDITION, THE FIVE WILL REVIEW THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND CY WILL USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE GROUP UP TO DATE ON HIS TALKS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 101028 TOSEC 040159

IN MOSCOW.

4. LEBANESE GOVERNMENT CRISIS. THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT UNDER PRIME MINISTER AL-HOSS RESIGNED TODAY, BRINGING TO A HEAD A POLITICAL CRISIS WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPING SINCE THE ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION BEGAN. SARKIS RETAINS MOST OF THE EXECUTIVE POWER AS PRESIDENT, AND THE RESIGNED GOVERNMENT CAN STAY ON IN AN INTERIM CAPACITY FOR AN INDETERMINATE TIME. THE UNDERLYING CAUSE OF THE CRISIS IS THE DETERMINATION OF MARONITE CHRISTIAN LEADERS TO FORCE A NATIONAL CONSENSUS, WITH AS MUCH MUSLIM SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE, ON WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PALESTINIAN PRESENCE. SARKIS' PASSIVITY SPARKED A WIDESPREAD VIEW THAT SOMETHING DRASTIC HAD TO BE DONE.

5. CENTO. THE ESSENTIAL BUSINESS OF THE CENTO MINISTERIAL MEETING WAS COMPLETED TODAY PRIOR TO CY'S DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW. THE CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS WERE MORE CANDID THIS YEAR THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN SOME PAST MEETINGS. THE IRANIAN AND PAKISTANI FOREIGN MINISTERS DWELT ON THEIR CONCERN OVER SOVIET STRATEGIC ARMS IN THE REGION. THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CONCENTRATED MAINLY ON THE CYPRUS

ISSUE AND ON TURKEY'S NEED FOR THE RESUMPTION OF AMERICAN
HELP.

CHRISTOPHER

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